Serial No.: 10/728,705 Docket No.: ECC - 5774

Amendment dated October 20, 2006

Responsive to Office Action of July 20, 2006

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REMARKS

Claims 1-25 were pending in the application. Applicants have canceled claim 25 without prejudice.

First of all, the Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for allowing claims 1-24.

The Examiner rejected claim 25 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Renirie et al (USPN 6,141,590). Without agreeing with the propriety of the rejection and without prejudice to the Applicants right to pursue such a claim in a future application, the Applicants have canceled claim 25. With the cancellation of claim 25, only allowable claims remain in the application and, accordingly, the application is now in a condition for allowance. Applicants, therefore, request a notice of allowance to that effect.

FEES DUE TO FILE THIS AMENDMENT

When this application was filed, a fee was paid for a total of 29 claims. With the above amendment, of the 29 original claims only 24 remain. Thus, no fee is believed to be due to file this amendment.

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CONCLUSION

Accordingly, in view of the above amendments and remarks, it is submitted that this application is now ready for allowance. Early notice to this effect is solicited. If in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (949) 250-6801.

If an appropriate payment does not accompany or precede this submission, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any required fees, such as under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17, including any petition for extension of time, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-1225 (ECC-5774).

Dated: October 20, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

Rajiv Yadav, Ph.D., Esq. Registration No. 43,999 Edwards Lifesciences LLC

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